

the French as godless murderers. Whatever support the French might have gained from elite sympathizers of the Enlightenment or peasants wanting land was forfeited by cultural arrogance, the often violent imposition of conscription, the economic effects of the Continental Blockade, the dissolution of religious orders to which many were attached, and the attempts to eliminate local traditions.

Broers emphasizes, however, that Napoleonic rule did not directly or inadvertently promote nationalism. Napoleon sought a European order that was rational, uniform, and dependent on France, not a Europe of revolutionary nationalisms. Nor did opposition to his bureaucratic and military agents encourage nationalism. Rather, with the exceptions of Poland and Ireland, conquered Europeans agreed only on preserving their particularist, traditional rights.

Broers's evaluation of Napoleon's legacy is mixed. He acknowledges Napoleon the butcher, tyrant, and warmonger, but also insists on Napoleon's military and administrative genius. Napoleon's legacy also endured. For better or worse, leaders of new and old European states would not return to pre-1799 Europe, and they retained many of Napoleon's legal and administrative reforms in order to compete in the modern world.

Broers organizes his book into several dense chronological chapters, and within those chapters examines the impact of Napoleonic rule on the different geographical and social sectors of Europe. This is not a book for students, or faculty, beginning their study of Napoleon or Napoleonic Europe. Although Broers does briefly discuss the most important events and individuals affecting Europe, he focuses more on interpretation and on rather specific internal developments within European countries that assume some prior knowledge. The book would be very useful to graduate students and even to advanced undergraduate students who will find, in addition to the text, bibliography and footnotes invaluable for writing a term paper. Instructors will also find interesting arguments and examples for more than one lecture.

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Michael Burns. *France and the Dreyfus Affair: A Documentary History.* New York: St. Martin's Press, 1999. Pp. xiv, 210. Cloth, \$39.95; ISBN 0-312-21813-3.

One driven to bed by a chronic illness endures both pain and the prolongation of time; one who suffers injustice might wait long years for a remedy. So it was in 1894 with Captain Alfred Dreyfus, an Alsatian Jew in the French army whom fellow officers targeted. His arrest resulted from the acquisition of a military memorandum (*bordereau*) imputed to him on tenuous grounds as the basis for a charge of treason. Arrested, accused of high treason, tried, and convicted, he went to prison.

Michael Burns's documentary history of the Dreyfus affair provokes rumination about the anti-Jewish crusade that ill fits a modern, republican state, yet typified the human capacity for evil and self-delusion. In its irrationality and potential ferocity, it recalled the downside of the French Revolution only a century before. Church-state conservatism, army reactionism, and anti-Semitism worked mischief. There are key documents such as Maurice Barrès's revealing election campaign speech in 1898, several years after Dreyfus's trial and imprisonment. As a "professional anti-Semite," Barrès made the Jewish question key to the French national soul. Edouard Drumont's *La Libre Parole* spewed tirades and fictions against Jewish army officers as a dominant class that subverted French national values.

Dreyfus's trial and imprisonments, finally as the sole prisoner on Devil's Island, and the Dreyfusards' investigations and appeals make intriguing reading. The events and details unfold in arousing fashion. The indications of collusion among anti-Dreyfusards stand clear. The general staff's case dossier shows their resolve to destroy Dreyfus, but George Picquart, the new chief of the Statistical Section, discovered that Commandant Ferdinand Walsin-Esterhazy had forged the incriminating *bordereau*. For his pursuit of justice, Picquart, himself a Jew-hater, was imprisoned and dismissed from the army, whose command went far to suppress his findings.

The book provides a useful List of Principal Characters, a selected bibliography, and a complete index. Burns's extensive commentary gives continuity and a concise but thorough accounting of related developments. The footnotes provide sound direction for deeper analysis.

The book works on several levels. First, the document collection offers students a chance to use primary and secondary sources in a handy volume. Second, the documents and editor's comments reveal balanced historical judgment without sensationalism; even with the account of Mathieu Dreyfus's seances with a clairvoyant who revealed the false dossier, the documents speak for themselves. Third, the volume exposes modern anti-Semitism in focused, personal contexts: Dreyfus himself, his family and supporters, the military officers behind the scandal, and the anti-Dreyfusard champions, among them the suicidal hero Commandant Hubert-Joseph Henry. Fourth, the volume shows how disruptive and dangerous was the extreme politicization borne of French ultra-nationalism and anti-Semitism. Fifth, the documentary history clarifies the influences of journalists and other publicists in *l'affaire Dreyfus*, including Emile Zola, whose *J'Accuse* revealed the affair as a malicious farce. A century later, students will recognize the power of the modern media, then as now, to shape public and official sentiments. I recommend this book for upper-level undergraduates and graduate students.